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MINUTES

**Nassau County Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan
Core Planning Group Meeting #2
January 12, 2006
1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

Attending:

Name	Affiliation	Address	Phone	Fax	E-mail
Leonard Paretta	Town of Hempstead Public Safety	200 N. Franklin Street Hempstead, NY	516-538-1900		lparetta@tohmail.org
Ron Masters	TOH	P.O. Box 180 Pt. Lookout, NY 11569	516-897-4118	516-431-0088	rmasters@optonline.net
Bruce W. Early	City of Glen Cove	1 Bridge Street Glen Cove, NY	516-676-1283	516-676-1043	bwell@aol.com
Michael Salentino	Director OEM City of Glen Cove	9 Glen Street City Hall Glen Cove, NY 11542	516-676-4853 cell: 516-369-5069	516-676-7356	Bruce Early will give Mike Salentino copies of E-mails
Donna Plante	Town of North Hempstead	285 Denton Avenue New Hyde Park, NY 11040	516-739-6719	516-739-6717	planted@northhempstead.com
Mark Buttice	Nassau County	400 County Seat Drive Mineola, NY 11501	516-571-5873	516-571-3839	mark.buttice@mail.county.nassau.ny.us
Jon Klein	Town of Oyster Bay	Department of IGA 54 Audry Avenue Oyster Bay, NY 11771	516-624-6180	516-624-6139	jklein@tobays.net
Matt Arnold	NYS DOT	250 Veterans Memorial Highway Hauppauge, NY 11787	631-952-6673	631-952-6001	marnold@dot.state.ny.us
Francine Ferrante	City of Glen Cove Downtown BID	18 Village Square Glen Cove, NY 11542	516-759-6970	516-759-2308	glencovebid@aol.com

Terry Winters	NC OEM	100 Carman Avenue East Meadow, NY 11554	516-573-0636	516-573-0673	twinters@nassaucountyny.gov
Anna Foley	URS Corp.	201 Willowbrook Blvd Box 290 Wayne, NJ 07474-0290	973-785-0700 ext. 449	973-812-0985	anna_foley@urscorp.com
Judy Fischer	OMNI Consulting	P.O. Box 496 Port Jefferson, NY 11777-0496	631-473-4826		jefischer@aol.com

The second Core Planning Group (CPG) meeting for the Nassau County Multi-jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan was held on Thursday, January 12, 2006 at the offices of the Nassau County Office of Emergency Management in East Meadow, New York.

The CPG is a working group comprising key representatives of Nassau County's three towns and two cities, and key stakeholders. The CPG will manage the overall formulation of activities and contribute to the decision making process. Representatives on the CPG are in effect coordinators because they organize outreach efforts within their respective boundaries by means of a team concept. The teams, "Area Assessment Teams," (AATs) include representatives from the towns, villages, and cities as well as key stakeholders within that particular geographic area. The function of the AATs is to facilitate and coordinate planning efforts that are required in a multi-jurisdictional mitigation plan.

- Terry Winters of the Nassau County Office of Emergency Management welcomed the group and provided opening remarks. Mr. Winters introduced new members to the group and discussed the purpose of the CPG. He also discussed difficulties in getting local municipalities to "buy into" the planning process. Many jurisdictions that have expressed interest in participating have come to few, if any, meetings. Very few (only nine to date) have completed the Hazard ID questionnaires.
- Anna Foley of URS Corporation discussed:
 - The need for feedback from participating jurisdictions to be included in the plan.
 - Participation Criteria - FEMA mitigation planning requirements for local jurisdictions are presented in your folder of handouts (see the one page "Sources of Information on Hazard Mitigation Planning"). The Crosswalk Reference Document is the set of rules by which we are playing. Our plan development process has been built around this. To make the meaning of participation in the countywide, multi-jurisdictional plan development process clear to each Planning Group member, we have put together a one page table of Participation Criteria. This is also included in the handouts.
 - Guidance Memorandums

- *Combined Guidance Memorandums #1 and #2 – Stakeholder Participation and Outreach Plan (October 19, 2005).* This combined memorandum suggests things participating jurisdictions can do to provide opportunities for the public and other stakeholders throughout both the plan development process and the plan maintenance cycle. The memo includes a public outreach log for participants to note whatever outreach efforts they undertake so they can get credit for those efforts with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). This can range from an entire meeting with stakeholders in a jurisdiction to a discussion within a meeting.
 - *Guidance Memorandum #3 – Plan Maintenance Procedures: Monitoring, Evaluating, and Updating the Plan (January 4, 2006).* The final mitigation plan will be a ‘living document’; that is, it will be monitored, evaluated, and updated as needed in rolling five-year cycles from the date of plan approval. This memorandum presents suggestions for the Overall Planning Group to consider as it develops a method and schedule of monitoring, evaluating, and updating the mitigation plan.
 - *Guidance Memorandum #4 – Plan Integration (January 4, 2006).* Upon the final plan’s approval, participating jurisdictions must integrate mitigation recommendations into job descriptions or into existing planning mechanisms such as comprehensive plans, capital improvement plans, zoning and building codes, site reviews, permitting and other planning tools, where such tools are appropriate. This memorandum presents participating jurisdictions with guidance on potential means to satisfy the FEMA requirement for plan integration procedures.
 - All **Guidance Memos** prepared to-date are included in the handouts. A reminder that actions are required on your part. See the memos for more information.
- NCOEM has posted information on the planning process on its **web site**. Please check back frequently for updates. The address is:
<http://www.nassaucountyny.gov/agencies/OEM/hazmit/hazmit.html>.
 - The new PLANFACTS fact sheet. Please see handouts for a Fact Sheet on the planning process. Extra copies are available; please take more before you leave, or contact Terry for larger quantities. The fact sheet is also on the mitigation planning web site.
 - Very few participating jurisdictions (only nine to date) have completed the Hazard ID questionnaires. Please complete and return to Terry as soon as possible, if you have not already done so.
- Ms. Foley and Mr. Winters took questions throughout the meeting.

Q1 What does ‘credit’ mean?

- A1** (Ms. Foley) FEMA mitigation planning requirements for local jurisdictions are in your folder of handouts (see the one page “Sources of Information on Hazard Mitigation Planning”). The Crosswalk Reference Document is the set of rules by which we are playing. It is what reviewers at the New York State Emergency Management Office (SEMO) and FEMA use to ‘grade’ the plan. For each requirement, a plan must receive a satisfactory score in order to be approved by FEMA (there are three requirements where a plan can receive a score of ‘needs improvement’ and still pass overall). The Plan will first go to SEMO for review. Once it is accepted by SEMO, it will be forwarded to FEMA for its review and approval.
- Q2** (Town of Hempstead) Is there someone in Nassau County we can coordinate with in terms of credits?
- A2** (Mr. Winters) There is a lot more value in the participation.
(Mr. Salentino) When I meet with key people, such as nursing homes, there might be things we need to know from them that would be mitigation problems.
- [Note: Each jurisdiction that chooses to participate in the multi-jurisdictional county wide plan must meet each of the FEMA requirements in the Crosswalk for the FEMA to recognize the overall plan as acceptable for any given participating jurisdiction.]*
- Q3** (Town of Hempstead) One of the stumbling blocks was community access. In the Town of Hempstead that is a huge task. I had 5,000 hits from people who put in claims in the last 20 years. Would we need to go back to everyone who made claims from former FEMA incidents and put them on FEMA maps and put them back into the process? Trying to justify each of these sheets is a stumbling block.
- A3** (Ms. Foley) Part of the report concerns which communities are in the flood insurance loss program and which have repeat losses. We have received summary information from FEMA regarding NFIP policy and claims data, as well as other information such as FMA, HMGP, and PDM grant funds, and PA and IA (post-disaster) payouts. So participating jurisdictions won’t have to scramble to obtain this information and provide it to us for inclusion in the plan.
- In terms of plan maintenance procedures, Ms. Foley discussed the following:
- A plan update or review once every five years. There are guidelines for how to do this annually.
 - Options for meeting requirements.
 - Getting feedback from participants.
 - Loss of eligibility if a participating locality does not follow a five-year review cycle.

- Again, see: *Guidance Memorandum #3 – Plan Maintenance Procedures: Monitoring, Evaluating, and Updating the Plan (January 4, 2006)*.

➤ Plan integration:

- Ensuring the plan can be tied into other aspects of what the individual jurisdiction does on a regular basis; e.g. how to integrate into a comprehensive plan.
- Capabilities assessments for each community.
- Again, see: *Guidance Memorandum #4 – Plan Integration (January 4, 2006)*.

Q4 (Town of Hempstead) It is difficult to get money from FEMA, especially when you have major losses; e.g. losses from storms.

A4 (Mr. Winters) This funding we are trying to get is to do pre-disaster mitigation. Approval of the plan by FEMA will allow participating jurisdictions to be eligible applicants for these funding streams. However, participation (or lack thereof) will not affect a community's ability to be eligible to receive assistance in simply recovering from an event; it is only the mitigation project monies that are tied into the planning process. Some mitigation project funding streams are competitive nationwide while others are competitive statewide. But, in both cases, they are only open to those jurisdictions with approved plans in place. So the number of other eligible applicants is more limited than it was prior to the passage of DMA 2000.

- For the working session component of the meeting, Ms. Foley asked the CPG participants to provide feedback to the group regarding natural hazard susceptibility in their communities, specific problem areas, and ideas for potential mitigation projects.

Q5 (Mr. Klein) When the Town of Oyster Bay worked on its hazard mitigation plan and wanted to detail flooding, it found that many residential structures were built before there were applicable codes. This is a general problem in Nassau.

A5 (Ms. Foley) That is true. Comparing the year a structure was built to the year certain codes were adopted (i.e. regarding flood protection, earthquake resistant design, and also wind load design) gives you an idea of which buildings are at the greatest risk (of flooding, earthquake damage, wind damage). To do a detailed assessment of risk, we would need to have, for each parcel, the year its improvement was built, square footage, number of stories, etc. Since that information is not included in the County GIS, but is part of what is recorded in the Assessor's Office, a good mitigation action to undertake during the plan maintenance cycle might be to get those two data sources linked up so that a more detailed evaluation can be conducted. Right now, with the information we have, we have prepared detailed summaries, by community, of the number and

area of parcels in each flood zone, as well as the value of improved property at risk. We can make some general assumptions to prepare estimates of potential damages, for this version of the plan.

- Comments (identifying specific problems and potential actions)
 - (Town of Hempstead)
 - Coastal erosion – We are with the Army Corps and the State. Have a \$90 million project at Point Lookout – Jones Inlet to west end of Long Beach.
 - Storm drains – Not always coastal streets. Drains back up into streets. Have had to raise roads. Have houses at the runoff points. A lot of the storm drains cannot get all the water from the streets. They need to improve back flow valves. And they need to raise bulkheads to keep up with sea level rise.
 - Lido Boulevard – An evacuation route that gets flooded all the time and which drains under a school. Insert in road lower than storm drain system. Coordinating possible action with Nassau County.
 - We can ask our highway department where the problems are and put them up on GIS – identify the hazard and the funding source.
 - (Mr. Klein) You have to prove cost-benefit.
 - (Mr. Winters) Critical infrastructure – hospitals, village and town halls – a lot of villages turning town halls into command centers. What do they consider hazard areas? What would impact them?
 - (Glen Cove) A lot of trees – We are very much impacted by trees.
 - (Town of North Hempstead) You have to have the budget. Tree trimming involves staff and money.
 - (Mr. Winters) There is a need for storm drain management.
 - (Town of Hempstead) There are requirements for the town – MS4/storm water management (EPA Phase II management) as often as people can get out there.
 - (Ms. Foley) One potential mitigation action might then be, for specific problem locations, to provide more frequent maintenance.
 - (Ms. Plante) In many locations recharge basins are overgrown. You may be able to do maintenance but you sometimes need heavy equipment.
 - (Mr. Arnold) In chronic areas, even where recharge basins are clean, the capacity of the recharge basins cannot handle the water.

- (Town of Hempstead) With respect to New York State Department of Transportation's bridge piers, scouring is a problem, for example, Goose Creek Bridge.
- (Mr. Winters) With respect to LIPA, they may have to look at elevating their sub stations. Also, poles – will their poles withstand heavy flooding events.
- (Mr. Masters) LIPA should put in the poles a little deeper.
- (Mr. Salentino) Morgan Island – Water and high winds result in flooding on many streets. Redid tidal gates; installed overflow line that goes from storm drains to pond site to reduce the volume of water from the Long Island Sound to the pond. Sewage lift stations in flood areas. To mitigate, we might move the electrical components to higher ground.
- (Ms. Foley) This is exactly the type of information we need. Remember to elaborate on this when you fill out your Hazard ID Questionnaires, if you have not already done so. And feel free to attach additional pages.

Q6 (Mr. Winters) If the only way to mitigate would be to have pumps, could we get a grant to purchase more pumps? If FEMA wants to give funding for mitigation; e.g. to raise roads – can we buy pumps?

A6 (Ms. Foley) I will find out.

(Mr. Klein) There are other ways: The Nassau Suffolk Transportation Coordinating Commission and DOT highway improvements. Oyster Bay received a federal DOT grant to raise a road in a flood area.

- The CPG discussed potential plans for undeveloped land in Nassau County.
 - Oyster Bay: a possible shopping center on the Cerro Wire Works property.
 - Glen Cove waterfront: Avalon Bay
 - Brownfields: Woodbury and Froelich Farm Boulevard – office building; commercial development in Farmingdale and under the Roslyn viaduct.
 - Marinas: Town of Hempstead -- many marinas trying to go into private, high-end development. Nassau County buying several marinas in the Town of Hempstead.

➤ Next Steps

Participants were asked to include the following information as attachments to their Hazard ID Questionnaire (or separately, if they have already included the questionnaire): discussion and identification of specific problem areas in your community with regard to natural hazards; ideas for potential mitigation projects;

natural hazards and their affects in your community; and a quick summary of outreach activities you have undertaken to date (how are things going?).

Outreach to jurisdictions, the public and other stakeholders within your area – use the Outreach Log. This will be ongoing: Outreach Logs to URS by March 15.

Feedback regarding Plan Maintenance Procedures to Terry by January 31.

Completion of the Capability Assessment (Attachment A of Guidance Memo #4): provided to Terry by January 31.

Feedback regarding Plan Maintenance Procedures to Terry by January 31.